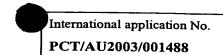
## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P200116PC00	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).				
International Application No.	International Filing Dat (day/month/year)	e	Priority Date (day/month/year)			
PCT/AU2003/001488	10 November 2003		15 November 2002			
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC						
Int. Cl. 7 H05B 6/02, 6/46						
Applicant						
FAIRFIELD ELECTRONICS PT	Y LTD et al					
		<u> </u>				
1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.						
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3	sheets, including this co	ver sheet.				
This report is also accompanied by	y ANNEXES, i.e., sheets	of the description	claims and/or drawings which have been			
amended and are the basis for this	report and/or sheets con	taining rectifications	made before this Authority (see Rule			
70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).						
These annexes consist of a total of	f sheet(s).	·				
3. This report contains indications relating to	to the following items:					
I X Basis of the report	Basis of the report					
II Priority						
III Non-establishment of opin	opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability					
IV Lack of unity of invention						
citations and explanations	der Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; ons supporting such statement					
VI Certain documents cited						
VII Certain defects in the intern	ternational application					
VIII Certain observations on the						
Date of submission of the demand						
4 February 2004		te of completion of February 2004	the report			
Name and we'll all and appropriate		thorized Officer				
AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE		morized Officer				
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustralia.gov.au						
Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929		ARS KOCH				
	Tel	Telephone No. (02) 6283 2551				



I.	Basis of th	ne report			
1.	With regard to	the elements of the international application:*			
	X the intern	ational application as originally filed.			
	the descr	iption, pages, as originally filed,			
		pages, filed with the demand,			
		pages, received on with the letter of			
	the claim	s, pages, as originally filed,			
		pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,			
		pages, filed with the demand,			
		pages, received on with the letter of			
	the drawing	ngs, pages, as originally filed,			
		pages, filed with the demand,			
		pages, received on with the letter of			
	the seque	nce listing part of the description:			
		pages , as originally filed			
		pages , filed with the demand			
		pages, received on with the letter of			
2.	With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:  the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).				
		ge of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).			
	and/or 55.	ge of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 3).			
3.	With regard to an preliminary ex	ny nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international amination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:			
		in the international application in written form.			
	filed togetl	ner with the international application in computer readable form.			
	_	subsequently to this Authority in written form.			
		furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.			
	internation	ent that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the al application as filed has been furnished.			
		ent that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has			
ŀ.	The amend	ments have resulted in the cancellation of:			
	the	e description, pages			
		claims, Nos.			
		e drawings, sheets/fig.			
	This report	has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to			
	go beyond	the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**			
	Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).				
*	Any replacement	sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report			

International application No.
PCT/AU2003/001488

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

L		uch statement	•
	1. Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims 1 - 21	YES
		Claims	NO
l	Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1 - 21	YES
l		Claims	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1 - 21	YES
L		Claims	NO .

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

## Novelty (N), Inventive Step (IS)

The following documents identified in the International Search Report have been considered as relevant for the purposes of this report:

D1: WO 1998/027823 D2: WO 2001/030118

D1 discloses a method and apparatus for heating foodstuffs which exhibit neither fully dielectric nor fully inductive behaviour in which the foodstuffs are exposed to combined oscillating electric and magnetic fields. The magnetic field heats the product during the stage where it behaves predominantly as a conductor, while the electric field heats the product during the stage when it behaves predominantly as an insulator. However, D1 does not disclose or suggest the application of such a method or apparatus to the heating of refractory oxides.

D2 discloses a process for microwave heating of a material in which separate regions of pure magnetic and electric fields are produced within a cavity. Different materials were shown to have different heating behaviours in the electric and magnetic field regions. D2 does not disclose or suggest the combined use of electric and magnetic fields to heat refractory oxides.

Claims 1 - 21 therefore meet the criteria set forth in PCT Article 33(2) for novelty, and meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(3) for Inventive Step.